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THE
Thurrock Urban District Council



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
Medical Officer of Health

INCLUDING THE REPORT OF THE
Chief Public Health Inspector
and the Public Analyst
For the Year 1960

GRAYS
HIGGINS LTD., PRINTING CONTRACTORS
1961

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MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE
(as at 31st December, 1960)

Chairman : Mrs. E. E. OLIVER. J.P.

Vice-Chairman : A. F. BARNES

Councillors : Mrs. M. A. S. BURR
Mrs. E. M. BARTHOLOMEW
F. E. T. BENSON
J. HIBBERT
H. E. MOOR
O. MUNSON-BARKSHIRE
L. NUNN
A. R. WILTCHER
M. G. BENNETT, J.P. (ex-officio)

URBAN DISTRICT OF THURROCK

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health :

W. T. G. BOUL, M.B.E., M.D., D.P.H.

The Medical Officer of Health is also Area Medical Officer and Divisional School Medical Officer for South Essex of the Essex County Health Services, and Consultant Physician to the City and Port of London Health Authority.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health :

(Vacant)

Chief Public Health Inspector :

H. A. GOSLING, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (1, 2, 3)

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector :

J. M. ANDERSON, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (1, 2, 3)

Public Health Inspectors :

R. A. BULL, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (1, 2, 3)

D. G. STRIPP, M.A.P.H.I. (1, 2, 3)

P. E. PARBERY, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., A.M.I.P.H.E. (1, 2) (Until 7.8.60)

D. H. RATCLIFF, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (1, 2) (Until 17.7.60)

C. J. GILL, M.A.P.H.I. (1, 2) (From 1.9.60)

S. ROUSE, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (1) (From 19.12.60)

(Two Vacancies)

(1) Indicates Certificates: R.S.I. and S.I. Exam. Jt.Bd.

(2) Indicates Certificate: Inspection of Meat and Other Foods.

(3) Indicates Certificate: Smoke Inspection.

Public Analyst :

THOS. McLACHLAN, A.C.G.F.C., F.R.I.C.

Clerical Assistant—Public Health Department :

Mrs. D. SAYERS

Chief Clerk—Chief Public Health Inspector's Department :

J. T. AUSTIN

Trainee Public Health Inspector :

G. NOBLE (On National Service from 1.10.59)

(One Vacancy)

Clerical Assistants—Chief Public Health Inspector's Department :

Mrs. E. BROWNE

Mrs. M. GRIFFITHS

Rodent Officer :

C. L. WILKINSON

Rodent Operative :

J. PERRY

Mortuary Attendant :

C. PARSLEY

**TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
THURROCK URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the pleasure of presenting to you my Annual Report for the Year Ending 31st December, 1960.

This report includes the report of Mr. H. A. Gosling, Chief Public Health Inspector, and the Report is my thirty-sixth and last report on the district as a whole.

The population of the Urban District continues to increase year by year but not at as high a rate as heretofore, and the Registrar General's Estimate for mid-year 1960 is 109,710. It seems quite possible that in a very short while to come the opening of the Purfleet - Dartford tunnel will make some difference to the area and especially in regard to the amount of motor transport through the area and presumably, therefore, in regard to fatal and other accidents upon the roads.

The district is geographically situated on the north bank of the River Thames and is one of the largest Urban Districts in the country. Not only has the district extensive industrial development along the riverside but still contains a very large agricultural community in the north of the area.

Since the Second World War a number of housing estates have developed, not only from the County Council of London, but also from the County Boroughs of East and West Ham. Considerable extension of this building is still expected at the eastern end of the district.

The Medical Officer of Health is also responsible to the Essex County Council for the control of certain Health Services and this factor is of great value in co-ordination. The report will contain, in fact, details of the Clinics, etc., carried out under the auspices of the Essex County Health Services.

During the Year under review the health of the district has remained at a high level. There has been relatively little Infectious Disease and no cases of Poliomyelitis. The number of cases of Tuberculosis continues to decline. It is with pleasure that it can be reported, once again, that no maternal deaths took place in the district during the year for the third year in succession.

I have had the honour of serving the district as Medical Officer of Health since the year 1925 and it might be of some interest to repeat some of the figures of the year 1926.

The population of the area was 61,573. The Infantile Mortality Rate for this year is as low as 19.53, in the year 1926 it was 50.9. The Crude Death Rate is 7.64 and in 1926 it was 9.34.

It will be recalled that, in my report for last year, I recorded that no action had been possible regarding the making of Smoke Control Orders owing to shortage of Public Health Inspectors. I regret to say that during 1960, the position became even worse — so much so that the department was brought to the verge of breakdown. During the latter part of the year however, the position began to improve and I can only hope that this improvement will continue during 1961.

I am very much indebted to the whole of the Members of the Staff of the Public Health Department and wish to place on record, for the information of the Council, my appreciation of the work they have carried out during the year under review. I should also like to place on record my gratitude for the continued support of the Council and Officials of other Departments.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

W. T. G. BOUL,

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,

34 Cresthill Avenue,

Grays, Essex.

Telephone: Grays Thurrock 4641/4

SECTION "A"

Land Area of the District (in Acres)	....	....	42,000
Population (Registrar-General's Estimate Mid-Year 1960)	....	....	109,710
No. of Inhabited Houses or Flats (according to Rate Books) as at 31.12.60	....	....	31,277
Rateable Value (at 31.3.60)	....	....	£1,726,423
Product of a 1d. Rate (at 31.3.60)	....	....	£6,877

The Urban District of Thurrock stretches along the northern bank of the River Thames, having approximately 18 miles of river frontage. The area adjoining the river is industrial and contains two of the chief centres of population — Grays and Tilbury.

The principal industries are the manufacture of cement, margarine, cardboard, footwear, detergents, nitric acid and chemical fertilisers. In addition there are the oil refineries at Coryton and Shell Haven, the oil storage undertakings at Thames Haven and Purfleet and the docks at Tilbury.

Inland, the principal occupation is agriculture and the district includes many market-gardeners and dairy farms.

A large number of the inhabitants travel daily to the Metropolis.

UNEMPLOYMENT

The following figures have been very kindly supplied by the Managers of the Ministry of Labour and National Insurance and the Juvenile Employment Bureau.

Unemployed Adults as at 31.12.60:—

<i>Month</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>
January	457	205
February	411	164
March	357	134
April	293	130
May	273	97
June	235	115
July	239	84
August	246	90
September	234	102
October	340	139
November	340	139
December	279	163

Unemployed young persons as at 31.12.60 :—

<i>Month</i>			<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>
January	....	....	40	24
February	....	....	24	28
March	....	....	11	27
April	....	....	21	13
May	....	....	13	17
June	....	....	14	15
July	....	....	23	15
August	....	....	40	26
September	....	....	20	9
October	....	....	29	19
November	....	....	22	16
December	....	....	22	11

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

Thurrock
Urban District England
and Wales

Live Births:

Number — (956 Males, 939 Females)	....	1,895	
Rate per 1,000 estimated (Crude)		17.27	
Mid-Year Home Population (Adjusted)		15.20	17.1
Illegitimate Live Births percentage of total Live Births	....	3.80%	

Stillbirths:

Number — (18 Males, 18 Females)	....	36	
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	....	18.64	19.7
Total live and stillbirths	....	1,931	

DEATHS

Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year):

Number — (24 Males, 13 Females)	....	37	
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births		19.53	21.7
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	....	19.20	
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	....	27.78	
Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under four weeks (19 Males, 9 Females) per 1,000 total live births)	....	14.78	

Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under one week (18 Males, 8 Females) per 1,000 total live births)	19.0
Perinatal mortality rate (stillbirths and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths)	32.11
Maternal Mortality (including abortion):	
Number of deaths	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	—

All Causes:

Number — (450 Males, 392 Females)	842
Death rate per 1,000 estimated Mid-Year Home Population	(Crude) 7.64
	(Adjusted) 11.12
	11.5

The following table has been supplied by the Registrar-General: —

CAUSES OF DEATH				MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
ALL CAUSES	....	....	....	450	392	842
1. Tuberculosis, Respiratory	....	....	....	3	2	5
2. Tuberculosis, Other	....	....	....	1	—	1
3. Syphilitic disease	....	....	....	1	3	4
4. Diphtheria	....	....	....	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	....	....	....	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal Infections	....	....	....	—	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	....	....	....	—	—	—
8. Measles	....	....	....	—	—	—
9. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases....				3	1	4
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	....			10	7	17
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	....			34	5	39
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	....			—	14	14
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	....			—	7	7
14. Other Malignant & Lymphatic neoplasms				46	41	87
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	....	....		4	3	7
16. Diabetes	....	....	....	5	1	6
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	....			37	52	89

CAUSES OF DEATH				MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
18.	Coronary disease, angina	....	....	90	56	146
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	....	....	8	6	14
20.	Other heart diseases	....	....	40	46	86
21.	Other circulatory disease	....	....	21	22	43
22.	Influenza	....	....	1	—	1
23.	Pneumonia	....	....	27	34	61
24.	Bronchitis	....	....	23	8	31
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	....	....	3	4	7
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	....	....	8	3	11
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	....	....	2	4	6
28.	Nephritis and Nephrosis	....	....	4	3	7
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	....	....	6	—	6
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	....	....	—	—	—
31.	Congenital Malformation	....	....	9	8	17
31.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	....	....	35	45	80
33.	Motor Vehicle accidents	....	....	6	6	12
34.	All other accidents	....	....	20	7	27
35.	Suicide	....	....	3	4	7
36.	Homicide and operations of war	....	....	—	—	—

SECTION "B"

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

The staff of the Public Health Department have been enumerated at the commencement of this Report.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The Pathological Laboratory facilities are provided as in past years by the North East Metropolitan Hospital Regional Board and whilst the main Laboratory is situated in Billericay at St. Andrew's Hospital, good facilities exist at Orsett Hospital in the area. The thanks of the Council to the Tilbury and South East Essex Hospital Management Committee should be given in that the co-operation received during the year has been extremely good. The list of examinations which can be carried out is very comprehensive and of a widely varying scope but relates very greatly to pathological reports upon such specimens as Cerebro-Spinal Fluids, blood, faeces, etc. In addition the area is served by the Public Health Laboratory Service at Southend-on-Sea where certain examinations of milk, water and ice-cream, etc., are carried out. Biological samples of milk are examined at the Public Health Laboratory Services, London Road, Chelmsford.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The ambulance facilities in the district are adequate. The Service is administered centrally and is the responsibility of the Essex County Council. The County Council maintain a large ambulance station in the Town of Grays and over the last few years the number of vehicles and personnel have been increased very greatly. The ambulance service is an expensive service and every effort should be made by the users of the service to ensure that ambulances are not used when they are, in fact, not required. Certain of the larger local firms provide their own ambulance service.

No of Ambulance Vehicles ....	....	5
No. of Sitting case Vehicles ....	....	4
Total cases conveyed ....	....	46,382
Stretcher cases	3,506	
Other cases	42,876	
Total mileage ....	....	237,794
Total emergency cases ....	....	2,276

NURSING IN THE HOME.

The District Nursing Service is under the control of the Essex County Health Services and the area can be said to be reasonably well served, though recruitment is difficult and there are, from time to time, difficulties owing to sickness of staff, etc.

In the district as a whole there are employed the equivalent of 15 whole-time Nursing Officers.

No. of visits paid to patients' homes 36,122

PROVISION OF NURSING APPLIANCES IN THE HOME.

The Essex County Health Services supply, on application, numerous articles of equipment for the patients in their homes. Such articles include bedrests, bed pans, bed cradles, bed tables, commodes, mattresses, wheelchairs in and outdoor, air cushions, air rings, etc. The main depot for distribution is at Whitehall Lodge, Whitehall Lane, Grays. Nursing equipment on loan for the sick, does not, as a rule, include specialised equipment for the permanently incapacitated. This service is a very valuable service and much appreciated by patients and has been greatly extended during the year under review.

HEALTH CENTRES, COMBINED TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS.

On the following pages will be found a list of these clinics and treatment centres. It should be noted that there is one Health Centre built in the Year 1955 from which not only the services of the Local Health Authority function, but also General Medical and Dental Services. In this Centre there are four suites of consulting rooms for Medical Practitioners and one suite for a Dental Practitioner, together with accommodation for the Local Health Authority Services for Speech Therapy and for Ophthalmology. It is with pleasure that it can be recorded that Ophthalmology has been commenced at the Health Centre. In addition facilities have been made available to the Probation Officers, the Registrar of Births and Deaths and the Children's Officer.

HOSPITAL SERVICES.

The area of the Local Authority is served by the Tilbury and South Essex Hospital Management Committee and contains three Hospitals.

Tilbury & Riverside General Hospital (Orsett Branch) with 230 beds for the treatment of general medical cases, Orthopaedics, Midwifery and Paediatrics.

Tilbury & Riverside General Hospital (Tilbury Branch) (General Surgery) 74 beds.

Thurrock Hospital — Diseases of the Chest, Tuberculosis, 90 beds.

Considerable extension to Orsett Hospital is envisaged in the near future.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES.

Midwifery and Maternity Services.

The Midwives, District Nurses and District Nurse Midwives working in the area are upon the staff of the Essex County Health Services. The establishment for the area is 29 and it is, of late years, becoming increasingly difficult to fill vacancies in this branch of the services. The co-operation of the Local Authority in providing housing accommodation is of great assistance in filling a post.

HEALTH VISITORS' SERVICES.

The Health Visitors' Service is under the control of the Essex County Health Services and the establishment for the area is 11. The Health Visitors also have to assist them 13 part-time School Nurses. The duties of the Health Visitors have been widely extended in the last few years to include the domiciliary care of all within their areas, not only of mothers and young children but with the ageing population.

No. of visits paid to homes	....	....	16,356
No. of visits paid to Welfare Centres	....	....	1,292
No. of visits paid by Midwives	....	....	32,425
No. of visits paid by Midwives to Welfare Centres	....	....	220
No. of attendances of Midwives to Ante-natal Clinics	....	....	1,107

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICES.

The Domestic Help Services is under the control of the Essex County Health Services and at the end of the Year 1960 the staff for the area comprised:—

(a) Full-time Domestic Helps	....	....	2
(b) Regular Part-time Domestic Helps	....	....	190
(c) Casual Domestic Helps	....	....	305

This service has increased very greatly over the last ten years. The service, initiated for assistance to be given in households during confinements, is now very largely extended to chronic sick remaining in their homes.

WOMEN'S WELFARE.

The Essex County Health Services are responsible for the Women's Welfare Centres at Grays, Aveley, and the London County Council Estate. At these clinics advice is given on medical grounds in regard to family planning, etc., in addition to the Family Planning Association Clinic held at the Grays Welfare Centre, The Park, Grays.

ESSEX COUNTY HEALTH SERVICES CLINICS THURROCK DISTRICT

District	Details of Clinic	Address
Aveley	Child Welfare Ante-natal Women's Welfare Diphtheria & Whooping Cough Immunisation and Vaccination	Health Services Clinic, Hall Lane, Aveley
Aveley Health Centre	Child Welfare Ante-natal & Women's Welfare Minor Ailments Diphtheria & Whooping Cough Immunisation and Vaccination	Health Services Centre, Darenth Lane, Aveley
Bulphan	Mothers and Children either attend at Stanford or Grays	
Chadwell-St.-Mary	Child Welfare Ante-natal Mothercraft Diphtheria & Whooping Cough Immunisation and Vaccination	Health Services Clinic, River View, Chadwell-St.-Mary
Corringham	Child Welfare	Memorial Hall, Corringham
East Tilbury	Child Welfare	The Bungalow, Station Road, East Tilbury
Grays	Child Welfare Ante-natal Women's Welfare Family Planning Old Aged Pensioners Chiropody Diphtheria & Whooping Cough Immunisation and Vaccination	Health Services Clinic, The Park, Grays
Horndon-on-the-Hill	Child Welfare	Community Hall, High Road, Horndon-on-the-Hill

District	Details of Clinic	Address
Purfleet and West Thurrock	Child Welfare Ante-natal Diphtheria & Whooping Cough Immunisation and Vaccination	Health Services Clinic, London Road, and Day Nursery, W. Thurrock
Stanford-le-Hope	Child Welfare Ante-natal Mothercraft Diphtheria & Whooping Cough Immunisation and Vaccination	Health Services Clinic, St. Margaret's Hall, Stanford-le-Hope
Grays North Ward	Child Welfare Ante-natal Ante-natal Exercises Post-natal Exercises Mothercraft Diphtheria & Whooping Cough Immunisation and Vaccination	Health Services Clinic, Stifford Long Lane, Grays
Tilbury	Child Welfare Ante-natal Diphtheria & Whooping Cough Immunisation and Vaccination	Health Services Clinic, Newton Road, Tilbury
South Ockendon	Child Welfare Ante-natal Diphtheria & Whooping Cough Immunisation and Vaccination	Health Services Clinic, 107 South Road, South Ockendon

DAY NURSERIES.

The Essex County Health Services control two Day Nurseries in the area at Grays and West Thurrock. In each Nursery there are 30 places.

CHIROPODY.

During the year Essex County Health Services have agreed to the appointment of two Chiropodists to include domiciliary chiropody in the area. At the time of writing an appointment has been made but the Officer appointed did not commence duties during the year under review.

MOBILE MEALS.

The Women's Voluntary Services have a limited distribution of meals on certain days upon application. The Local Authority makes an annual grant of £450 towards this service. I am indebted to Mrs. G. F. Taylor, Organiser, for the following information.

Grays Area—

Approximate No. of Meals Distributed	....	6,500
Total Mileage (approx.)	....	4,500

Stanford-le-Hope Area—

Approximate No. of Meals Distributed	....	1,200
Total Mileage (approx.)	....	200

PREVENTIVE MEDICINE.

During the Year 1960 the persons affected were those born in 1933 to 1959 (if six months of age), but at the time of writing this report the age group has been extended to include all applications up to the age of 40. During the year 7,663 patients have been vaccinated either by their own doctor or by the medical staff of the Essex County Health Services and in addition, 10,369 patients have had boost injections.

HOUSING.

The Council have 8,790 Council Houses and in addition the London County Council, the East Ham Borough Council and the West Ham Borough Council have built or are building Estates. Despite this there still remains a total number of 3,675 applicants upon the waiting list. The allocation of Thurrock Council Houses is dealt with upon a points scheme and the Medical Officer of Health is allowed to recommend extra points upon medical evidence submitted on behalf of the patients. During the year under review 191 cases were investigated and points awarded.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF STAFF.

The Medical Officer of Health medically examines entrants to the Council's service and deals with medical questions arising in regard to examinations and is responsible to the Council for comment as to the fitness of an employee to remain in the Council's service.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 (SECTION 47).

No action was taken during the year under the above Act.

DISPOSAL OF THE DEAD.

The South Essex Crematorium situated just over the boundary of the district at Corbets Tey is carried on with the Borough of Romford and the Urban District of Hornchurch. The Medical Officers of Health of the constituent authorities act as Medical Referees and during the year the remains of 214 persons from the Thurrock area were disposed of.

CO-OPERATION WITH THE CITY AND PORT OF LONDON.

The Urban District of Thurrock contains Tilbury Docks into which an enormous amount of shipping arrives. For some years the Medical Officer of Health has also been Consultant Physician to the Port on the staff of the Medical Officer of Health for the City and Port of London and two Assistant Medical Officers of the Essex County Health Services working in the Thurrock Urban District act as Boarding Medical Officers.

SECTION "C"

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY.

The principal water supply of the area is provided by South Essex Waterworks Company, the vast majority of the premises in the district being served thereby. A small part of the area at Langdon Hills is served by the Southend Waterworks Company.

The water supply has been satisfactory in quality and quantity throughout the year and is not liable to plumbo-solvent action.

No. of samples taken and submitted for bacteriological examination:—

(a) From Public Mains	....	14
(b) From Wells	....	4

All were found to be satisfactory.

No. of samples taken and submitted for chemical examination:—

(a) From Public Mains	....	3
(b) From Wells	....	1

All were found to be satisfactory.

No. of dwellinghouses supplied from public water mains direct 31,214

Estimated population served 109,491

No. of houses supplied from public water mains supplied by means of standpipes 20

Estimated population served 70

No. of houses served by wells or stored rain-water 43

Estimated population served 149

Those properties supplied by standpipes refer to premises forming part of the Dunton Hills Estate. The laying of water mains would be very expensive and moreover, it is thought that some of land will revert to agriculture in the not too distant future.

Those houses supplied by wells are situated in the remoter rural portion of the area and the provision of mains water is not likely to be undertaken unless development takes place with a water main sufficiently near.

METEOROLOGICAL DETAILS.

Total amount of rain which fell during the year	30.92 ins.
Number of days on which rain fell	195
Heaviest rainfall on any one day (7.8.60)	1.5 ins.
No. of hours of sunshine	1,348

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

By far the greater proportion of the Urban District is sewered. The village of Bulphan on the northern boundary and the village of North Stifford are the principal areas not yet sewered.

The main Disposal Works are situated at Marsh Farm, West Tilbury, but smaller plants are at Corringham, Stanford-le-Hope and Linford.

The increasing development at the eastern end of the district has led to inadequacy of both sewers and sewage disposal and schemes are in course of preparation to deal with the problem.

The undermentioned schemes are likely to be submitted to the Ministry for loan sanction:—

- (1) Linford Sewerage Scheme enabling Linford to be drained to the main Disposal Works at Marsh Farm.
- (2) North Stifford Sewerage Scheme to drain the village of Stifford into the main sewerage and sewage disposal system.
- (3) Stanford-le-Hope High Level Trunk Sewer, draining Corringham to the Sewage Disposal Works at Stanford-le-Hope, thus enabling the badly overloaded Works at Corringham to close down.
- (4) Extension of Stanford-le-Hope Sewage Disposal Works.
- (5) Sludge Digestion Plant and possibly a Secondary Treatment Plant at the Marsh Farm Main Disposal Works.
- (6) Surface Water Drainage Scheme at Stanford-le-Hope and Corringham in order to deal with surface water from the Homesteads area.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The principal river in the area is the Thames, on the north bank of which the Thurrock Urban District stands. In addition, the Mardyke rises above Bulphan and Orsett Fens and discharges into the Thames at Aveley. There are, in addition, various small tidal streams which also discharge into the Thames.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

There were 722 cesspools and 620 pail closets in the area at the close of the year.

During the year the provisions of Section 47 of the Public Health Act, 1936, were invoked and notices served in respect of ten houses in Orsett requiring existing pail closets to be converted into water closets, the Council having agreed to bear one half the cost.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

This is carried out by the Public Cleansing Superintendent and no important change in the general arrangements took place during the year.

It is the Council's policy to empty household dustbins and pail closets weekly and cesspools fortnightly.

Refuse is disposed of by means of controlled tipping on a site at Baker Street, Orsett.

During the year a new scheme in connection with Waste Food Collection came into operation. This enables each bin to be changed and replaced once in every three weeks. I am pleased to report a remarkable diminution in the number of complaints received but whether this is indicative of the success of the new scheme or whether the poor summer is responsible, remains to be seen.

SWIMMING BATHS.

There are, within the area, six swimming baths as follows:—

Public	...	....	....	1
Private	....	....	....	2
Schools	....	...	....	3

The Public Swimming Bath is situated on the river front at Grays and was acquired by the Council some years ago from the London County Council.

The bath is approximately 60ft. x 28ft. and slopes from 2ft. 6ins. to 7ft. 6ins. Its capacity is 65,625 gallons. There are no means of filtration, but the water is chlorinated by chlorine gas injection and heated by means of a small Economic Boiler which admits steam to the water at various points. It is emptied twice weekly and refilled with mains water.

The bath is open from May - September and daily tests are made by the attendant in addition to routine samples submitted for bacteriological examination by the Health Department. During the year under review all such samples were satisfactory, but it is only possible to achieve this result by limiting the number of daily bathers.

Plans have already been drawn up for the construction of a modern indoor swimming bath at Blackshots Playing Field and it is hoped that by the end of 1961 work will have been commenced.

I am pleased to say that, during the year, alterations were carried out to the bath at one of the schools with the result that it is now provided with a continuous circulatory, filtration and chlorination unit. This means that with the exception of the Public Swimming Bath, all the baths in the area are now run on this principle.

It is becoming fashionable to instal small outdoor swimming baths in schools for tuition purposes and although none yet exists in Thurrock there is reason to believe that such might be the case. No legislation exists to control such installations and great care will need to be exercised on the part of the school authorities if a satisfactory water is to be maintained.

The total number of samples taken during the year was 36, of which 35 were of excellent bacteriological quality.

The single unsatisfactory sample was from one of the schools in the area and was due to the failure of the filtration unit. As this was almost at the end of term, the bath was immediately closed down.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION AND SMOKE ABATEMENT.

The area contains many large industrial plants situated mainly along the river front and the department pays constant attention to factory chimneys with a view to seeing that the Dark Smoke (Permitted Periods) Regulations, 1958, are not infringed.

There is an increasing tendency for coal fired units to be converted to oil and of the 32 new furnaces notified during the past two years, 30 have been oil fired and one gas fired.

This policy inevitably leads to a reduction of smoke and grit but it must be remembered that there is no corresponding decrease in invisible sulphur dioxide.

During the year the department has been particularly concerned with:—

- (1) The emission of excessive smoke from an installation engaged in the recovery of lead and copper from rubber and plastic covered cable.
- (2) The discharge of detergent powder from a large synthetic detergent factory.

In the first case, the problem has proved intractable over the past four years and is due to the necessity of applying simultaneously two apparently incompatible requirements, i.e., the

production of a high temperature on the one hand to prevent formation of smoke whilst, on the other hand, the temperature must not be too high to prevent the lead and copper from being “burnt” and thereby becoming useless.

It became necessary therefore to devise a furnace with primary and secondary combustion chambers — the secondary chamber to be heated by means of oil burners and provided with forced draught in order to “burn the smoke.” Two such furnaces have now been constructed and, although a complete remedy is too much to hope for, a marked reduction in the amount of smoke emitted is expected.

In the second instance the physical properties of the detergent powder prevent many forms of dedusting plant from being used and the cyclone is the most satisfactory means at present.

The product is spray dried after manufacture and passed through the cyclones before discharge to atmosphere. Unfortunately the sticky nature of the material is liable to give rise to a build-up in the cyclones and failure then results.

During the year the fitting of automatic warning devices was tried but proved a failure. In addition, and at the request of the department, the firm raised the existing cyclone outlets a further 25 feet so as to bring them above surrounding buildings and improve dispersion.

Experiments are now being made to see whether the physical condition of the detergent powder can be altered without changing its properties as a detergent.

ALKALI, ETC., WORKS.

The following works are now under the control of the Alkali Works Inspector and complete co-operation exists between him and this department:—

Cement Production	....	....	....	4
Synthetic Detergent Plant (bisulphite section)....				1
Oil Refining, etc. ....	....	....	....	4
Electricity Production	....	....	....	1
Nitric Acid Production	....	....	....	2

The two nitric acid plants utilise ammonia which is synthesised at one of the plants for conversion into nitric acid and from thence into ammonium nitrate and nitro-chalk for use as fertilisers. Both plants are now working and during the year no complaints have been received. It is hoped that the original “teething troubles” have now been overcome and during normal working there is no reason to believe the discharge will exceed the limits laid down by the Alkali Inspectorate.

Complaints regarding malodorous emissions from the Oil Refineries have shown a marked decrease over the year and although this might be thought to have been due to the fact that the prevailing wind is from the south-west, the fact remains that authorities to the east of Thurrock have reported similar lessening of complaints.

I think this is a situation which must be placed to the credit of the firms concerned, for, at these great works, it is a formidable task to keep pollution and smell to a minimum. There is occasional complaint against any oil refinery and it is the task of the companies to ensure that such occasions are as few as may be and the duration as short as possible.

The main problem is to treat many million cubic feet of gases each day, some at high temperature and pressure, containing not only hydrogen sulphide — itself offensive — but also malodorous sulphur compounds of the mercaptan type. These gases are desulphurised wherever practicable and then burned before discharge to atmosphere.

So far as cement dust is concerned, the picture is not so optimistic and the situation can best be described by the phrase "No Change." Unquestionably this is the principal single source of atmospheric pollution in Thurrock. Of the 15 kilns operating in this area, 12 are fitted with electrostatic-precipitators, the remaining 3 are small and not in regular use. A similar number of kilns exist on the Kent side of the river and, the prevailing wind being south-west, a good deal of the dust from that region is added to that from Thurrock.

In any comment upon the nuisance from cement dust, regard must be had to the magnitude of the problem. Some $4\frac{1}{2}$ million tons are produced annually at the seven works in the eight square miles of Thameside. This is the world's most intensive region of production. Rather more cement is made in the Lehigh Valley in U.S.A. but there the works are more scattered. It is necessary for the dedusting equipment to deal with just over $1\frac{1}{2}$ million cubic feet of kiln gases per minute and this is done by electro-static precipitators followed by discharge from high chimneys. Even so, there is some slip of dust past even the most efficient precipitators — certainly sufficient to give rise to nuisance.

My own view is that the solution to the problem is technical rather than legal and that little or no improvement is likely until either dedusting apparatus of greater efficiency is available or alternatively a new process is found for the manufacture of cement which does not give rise to so much dust.

INSTALLATION OF FURNACES AND CHIMNEYS.

(1) No. of notifications of construction of new furnaces	24
(a) Coal fired	Nil
(b) Oil fired	24
(c) Gas fired	Nil
(2) No. of applications for Prior Approval	7
No. granted	7

In all cases agreement was subsequently reached on the question of chimney height.

BYELAWS.

Byelaws exist under Section 24 of the Clean Air Act, 1956, which require new buildings to be provided with only such appliances for heating and cooking as are suitably designed for burning authorised smokeless fuels. Their enforcement is carried out by the Building Inspectors.

SMOKE CONTROL.

It is a matter of extreme regret to report that, although the Council's policy regarding Smoke Control was laid down in 1959, a commencement has not yet been made on this work.

This is owing to the shortage of public health inspectors which became even worse during the year than in 1959.

The staff position is, however, improving and it is hoped to make a start on the London County Council Estate during 1961.

With regard to the establishment of Smoke Control Areas, I have heard it said, "Why worry about smoke when we have so much cement dust?" The answer is that most industrial smoke and all domestic smoke can be completely eliminated whereas the cement dust problem is one which, so far, has proved insoluble. Moreover domestic smoke with its soot, tarry hydro-carbons and sulphur is discharged at a low level. Cement dust, however, is discharged at a high level and whilst its nuisance value cannot be overestimated, there is no evidence to suggest that it is a public health hazard.

DEPOSIT GAUGES.

Three deposit gauges and one peroxide cylinder are maintained by the Council who co-operate closely with the Thameside Joint Committee and to whom the monthly results are forwarded.

The readings from the gauges for the year 1960 are given overleaf:—

Month	Tons per square mile			Mg. per 100 sq. Cm
	Drums Site	Kennington's School Site	Ward Avenue Site	Sulphur Trioxide
January	33.20	15.36	15.47	2.57
February	33.77	16.80	5.38	1.93
March	35.63	10.39	11.43	1.37
April	27.39	13.32	14.59	1.16
May	27.70	17.12	17.20	0.90
June	31.99	12.59	—	1.04
July	41.96	13.02	—	1.30
August	36.96	19.59	34.73	0.96
September	42.02	20.51	32.12	1.36
October	29.74	25.71	—	1.80
November	47.71	21.65	49.61	1.82
December	57.64	22.28	46.49	2.13

It will be noted that, during the months of June, July and October, no result is shown in respect of the Ward Avenue Site and this was due to a defect in the apparatus which made it advisable to reject the reading.

The results include not only cement dust, but dust, grit and gritty particles from all sources.

DISINFESTATION AND DISINFECTION.

In addition to the treatment of verminous premises (detailed elsewhere in this report) the Council assists occupiers of premises in the eradication of other pests, e.g., earwigs, ants and wasps, either by the sale of suitable insecticides or by disinfestation for which a charge is made, the latter procedure being used in the case of wasps nests.

The number of complaints regarding wasps nests is continuing to increase and much time has been devoted to this work to the detriment of duties which are more in keeping with a public health department.

With a view to discouraging the number of requests and limiting the department's activities to those cases beyond the scope of the average tenant, the Council have increased the charge to 15/-.

When certain infectious diseases occur (e.g., Smallpox, Polio-myelitis, Meningococcal Infection) rooms are fumigated with formaldehyde and the bedding is removed for steam sterilisation to the Thurrock Hospital.

The number of rooms so fumigated was 7 and in 6 cases bedding was removed.

In addition part of the maternity block of a local hospital was fumigated following an outbreak of diarrhoea and a large amount

of bedding and clothing cleared from a ship in Tilbury Docks at the request of the Port Health Authority following cases of chickenpox.

RODENT CONTROL.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

The Rodent Officer deals with all complaints regarding rodent infestations. Private dwellinghouses are treated without cost but trade premises are charged on a basis of total cost plus Establishment Charges. Estimates are not given unless requested, owing to the difficulty of determining how many visits are likely to be made before the premises are cleared.

The Rodent Officer carries out regular treatments at sewage works, refuse tips and to the Council's sewers.

Warfarin is used in connection with all premises and sodium fluoroacetate for the treatment of sewers.

The following table shows the work of the Rodent Staff during the year:—

	Local Authority Premises	Dwelling Houses (including Council Houses)	All Other Premises	TOTAL
1. Number of properties inspected as a result of:				
(a) Notification ...	11	297	79	387
(b) Survey under the Act ...	5	27	—	32
(c) Otherwise ...	2	2	—	4
2. Total inspections carried out — including reinspections ...	155	1338	319	1812
3. Number of properties inspected (in Sec. 1) which were found to be infested by:				
(a) Rats } Major ...	—	—	1	1
} Minor ...	17	241	34	292
(b) Mice } Major ...	—	—	—	—
} Minor ...	1	85	44	130
4. Number of infested properties (in Sec. 3) treated by the Local Authority ...	18	326	79	423
5. Total treatments carried out incl. retreatments ...	31	316	75	422

OLD MÉTAL DEALERS.

By the Old Metal Dealers (No. 2) Order, 1952, the Secretary of State, Home Office, declared Section 86 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907 to be in force in the Urban District.

At the end of the year 30 persons had been registered as Dealers in Old Metal.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

The number of licences to keep Pet Shops issued during the year was 4.

RAG, FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

No premises in the area are registered under the above-mentioned Act.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER, 1957.

The authority for the Diseases of Animals Act, 1950 — the Essex County Council — have delegated to the Council their functions regarding the licensing of boiling plants for animal feeding-stuffs.

The importance of adequate boiling of waste food before feeding to animals or fowls cannot be over-emphasised for it is considered that failure to do this is responsible for some of the outbreaks of foot and mouth disease, swine fever and fowl pest.

The number of plants licensed during the year was 27.

NOISE ABATEMENT.

On 27th November, 1960, the Noise Abatement Act came into operation and Section 1 makes "noise or vibration which is a nuisance" a statutory nuisance for the purpose of Part III of the Public Health Act, 1936.

In the absence of any standards, it is difficult to know where exactly a noise becomes a nuisance which calls for legal action. The slightly deaf householder, turning up the volume of his television set, thoroughly enjoys the programme — the student next door finds the sound an intolerable obstacle to concentration.

A technical difficulty arises in industrial premises. Some noises are a nuisance and nobody is in any doubt about it. A notice will probably be followed by the query "What am I to do about it?" and the officer is beset by technicalities which are likely to be outside the scope of most health departments.

One provision of the Act, is however, clear. Loudspeakers, chimes, etc., must not be operated from ice cream vehicles save

between 12 noon and 7 p.m. This alone should be a source of satisfaction to many members of the public who have complained of this nuisance.

In Thurrock all firms having control of ice cream vehicles have been notified of the provisions of the Act and in particular to the restriction imposed on the use of loudspeakers.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

	VISITS
Atmospheric Pollution	320
Bakehouses	51
Caravans	489
Common Lodging Houses	10
Dairies and Milkshops	130
Drainage	1,044
Dustbins	68
Dwellinghouses	1,996
Factories (Mechanical)	231
Factories (Non-mechanical)	22
Fairs	13
Food Inspection	193
Food Preparation Premises	404
Food Shops Inspection	653
Food Vehicles	80
Standard Grant Applications	197
Ice Cream Premises	28
Infectious Disease	558
Licensed Premises	64
Miscellaneous	404
Meat Inspection	963
Outworkers	60
Overcrowding	21
Pet Animals	18
Rat Suppression	46
Refuse tips and accumulations	253
Rent Act	12
Sampling—Food	608
Ice Cream	380
Milk	707
Swimming Bath Water	41
Mains Water	17
Well	3

Schools	....	....	....	....	50
Shops Act	....	....	...	....	431
Slaughterhouses (other than meat inspection)	....				9
Stables and pigsties	....	....	....		47
Verminous Premises	....	....	....		58
Waste Foods Order	....	....	....		58
Water Supply	....	....	....	....	5
Work Places	....	....	....	....	18

SECTION "D"

HOUSING

NEW HOUSES.

No. of new dwellings erected during the year:—

By local authority	104
By other local authorities	Nil
By other bodies or persons	481

INSPECTION OF DWELLINGHOUSES.

1. (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	636
(b) Number of inspections/re-inspections made for that purpose	1,996
2. (a) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head 1) inspected under Housing Consolidated Regulations	Nil
(b) Number of inspections/re-inspections made for that purpose	Nil
3. Number of dwellinghouses found to be unfit for human habitation, and not capable at a reasonable expense of being rendered fit	25
4. Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those above) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	291

REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority and their officers	162
--	-----

ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

(A) <i>Housing Act, 1957. Section 9</i>	Nil
--	-----

(B) *Public Health Act, 1936.*

(i) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring matters to be remedied	62
(ii) Number of dwellinghouses in which matters were remedied after service of formal notices (including those outstanding from 1959):—	
(a) By owners	29
(b) By local authority in default of owners	Nil

(C) *Sections 16 and 23, Housing Act, 1957.*

(i) Number of houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	9
(ii) Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	7
(iii) Number of houses in respect of which undertakings not to use for human habitation were accepted	2
(iv) Number of houses in respect of which undertakings to render fit were accepted	Nil

(D) *Section 17, Housing Act, 1957.*

(i) Number of houses closed	2
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CLEARANCE AREAS.

Housing Act, 1957. Section 42.

During the year one area involving four houses was submitted for confirmation. The Clearance Order was confirmed by the Minister.

The properties in three clearance areas — one in Grays involving seven houses, one in Tilbury involving four houses and one in Stanford-le-Hope involving eight houses—were demolished and the sites cleared, the occupants having been rehoused by the Council.

The year under review saw the completion of the five-year programme which commenced on January 1st, 1956, and it is gratifying to record that many more houses have been dealt with than was thought to be possible when the proposals were submitted to the Minister in 1955. The position at the end of the year was as follows:—

(1) No. of houses submitted to Minister in 1955	79
(2) No. of houses actually dealt with	110
(a) Houses at which no rehousing was necessary	27
(b) Families rehoused	66
(c) Families awaiting rehousing	17 110

As the work of Slum Clearance progresses the type of house which is dealt with under the appropriate section of the Housing Act changes. No longer are there so many clear cut cases of houses which are unfit and incapable of repair at reasonable cost or areas in which the most satisfactory method of dealing with the conditions therein is the demolition of all the buildings in the area.

The task of deciding the order of priority for clearance or demolition is also made more difficult by the restricted number of houses available for the rehousing of displaced tenants.

These circumstances make it necessary for very careful consideration of each area or individual unfit house before taking action and where the structure is sound and reconditioning is possible every effort should be made to encourage the owner to improve the property, by means of a grant if necessary.

DISCRETIONARY AND STANDARD GRANTS.

The work during the year under this heading is summarised as follows:—

No. of applications received:—

(a) For Discretionary Grants ....	....	....	25
(b) For Standard Grants ....	....	....	113

No. of applications granted:—

(a) For Discretionary Grants ...	....	....	23
(b) For Standard Grants ....	....	....	94

It is pleasing to note that applications for the provision of the five standard amenities were received at a rate which was 50% higher than in 1959.

However, a large proportion of these applicants for the grants were owner-occupiers and it is unfortunate that owners of rented property do not make greater use of either standard or discretionary grants which are designed to bring houses up to the higher twelve point standard, namely:—

- (a) In a good state of repair and substantially free from damp.
- (b) Have each room properly lighted and ventilated.
- (c) Have an adequate supply of wholesome water.
- (d) Have an adequate means of supplying hot water.
- (e) Have an internal or otherwise readily available W.C.
- (f) Have a fixed bath (or shower) in a separate room.
- (g) Be provided with a sink.
- (h) Have proper drainage.
- (i) Have adequate points for gas or electric lighting.
- (j) Be provided with adequate means of heating.
- (k) Have adequate facilities for storage, preparation and cooking of food.
- (l) Have proper fuel storage facilities.

I think that the time has arrived when lack of the five standard amenities should be included in the standard of unfitness laid down in Section 4 of the Housing Act, 1957, which would enable a local authority to require the provision of such items by notice. An owner would be entitled to the grant and, in addition, would be empowered to increase the rent by the statutory amount if he so desired.

RENT ACT, 1957.

This Act has been in operation some $3\frac{1}{2}$ years and permits, with few exceptions, rents to be increased automatically, subject to the tenant's right to object by the service of a notice on the landlord listing those defects of repair which he considers should be remedied. It will be seen that no use has been made of this Act during the year under review.

Details of its administration are as follows:—

	1957	1958	1959	1960
No. of applications received	68	56	15	—
No. of applications rejected	—	—	1	—
No. of Undertakings accepted	40	48	5	2
No. of Certificates of Disrepair issued	10	26	7	—
No. of Unexpired Forms "J"	8	—	—	—
No. of Applications for Cancellation of Certificate	8	3	1	—
No. of Cancellations issued	6	3	1	—
No. of Refusals to Cancel Certificates	2	—	—	—

I do not think that the stage has been reached when there are no houses eligible for a Certificate of Disrepair but rather that the public are so bewildered by the cumbersome procedure of the Act that they have lost confidence in its ability to assist them. Alternatively some may well be under the impression that invocation of the Act may result in their eviction.

It is interesting to note that since the operation of the Act, 43 Certificates of Disrepair have been issued and 95 Undertakings accepted whereas only 12 applications for certificates of revocation have been made and it seems most unlikely that higher rents are being charged only in those few cases in which revocation certificates have been issued.

VERMINOUS PREMISES.

14 premises were found to be infested with vermin as follows:—

- Bugs - 13 premises (involving 25 rooms)
- Fleas - 1 premises (involving 3 rooms)

This figure does not include houses on the Council's estates which are supervised by the Estates Department.

Where houses are found to be infested with vermin, all rooms affected and all effects therein are sprayed with a vermicide containing D.D.T. and Gammexane. A charge is made where the work is carried out by the Public Health Department on the basis of 10/6d. per room disinfested.

OVERCROWDING.

During the year 21 visits were made in connection with complaints of overcrowding. Where overcrowding was established the matter was referred to the Housing Department and if the family concerned are applicants for a council house an allowance is made in the "Points" Scheme. The number of points awarded, however, is a maximum of 10 for each $\frac{1}{2}$ unit and I would like to see rehousing on the grounds of legal overcrowding be given the same degree of priority as rehousing in connection with slum clearance.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

Hitherto the legislation governing moveable dwellings was contained in the Essex County Council Act, 1933-52, which prohibited the occupation of such dwellings used or intended to be used, for an unbroken period of three months without the previous consent of the Council.

On 29th August, 1960, however, the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, came into operation and after consultation with other departments of the Council it was decided that control of caravans should be exercised under that Act rather than the Essex County Council Act.

The Public Health Committee has power to grant Site Licences for which planning permission is a pre-requisite.

There are, however, numerous exempted classes of caravans from the provisions of this Act—more so than under the local Act—and I am by no means satisfied that the same degree of control can be exercised as has been the case hitherto.

As a consequence of one of the exemption clauses an uncontrolled site of 40-50 caravans has developed on land adjoining the new West Thurrock Power Station and conditions there are far from satisfactory. All the occupants of this site are working on the construction of the new power station and such work will doubtless be in progress for the next 3-4 years. In the meanwhile the number of caravans continues to increase and I am convinced that the Act never intended that sites of this magnitude should be exempt from Site Licensing.

Up to the date of the operation of the new Act, 12 applications (excluding applications in respect of the approved site at Corringham) were received of which 9 were approved.

At the beginning of September, however, the whole caravan problem was reviewed in the light of the new legislation and the position regarding the 9 mentioned above is now as follows:—

- | | | | | | |
|---|------|------|------|------|---|
| (1) No. of cases in which a Site Licence was granted, | | | | | |
| they already having had planning approval for an | | | | | |
| unlimited period | .... | .... | .... | .... | 6 |

- | | | | | | |
|---|------|------|------|------|---|
| (2) No. of cases in which planning permission was refused | .... | .... | .... | .... | 1 |
| (3) No. of cases exempted from Site Licensing | .... |  |  |  | 1 |
| (4) No. of cases in which caravan was removed | .... |  |  |  | 1 |

So far as the caravan site at Corringham is concerned, an application for a site licence has been made by the occupier and has been referred to the planning authority.

COMPLAINTS RECEIVED.

During the year 989 complaints were received from residents within the Urban District. Every effort is made to deal with such complaints on the day of receipt.

DETAILS OF WORK EXECUTED.

Rooms :

Dampness remedied	....	....	....	63
Plaster repaired	....	....	....	68
Floors repaired	....	....	....	32
Windows repaired or renewed	....	....	....	55
Stoves repaired or renewed	....	....	....	13
Doors, locks, etc., repaired or renewed	....	....	....	25
Sashes	....	....	....	18
Ventilated food stores and repairs	....	....	....	2

Drains :

Unstopped or repaired	....	....	....	46
Gullies repaired or renewed	....	....	....	8
Inspection chambers repaired or renewed	....	....	....	6
New drains	....	....	....	1

Sanitary Fitments :

New sinks, etc.	....	....	....	8
W.C.s. or Pail Closets repaired	....	....	....	22
New pedestals provided	....	....	....	3
Waste pipes repaired or renewed	....	....	....	14
Soil or ventilation pipes repaired or renewed	....	....	....	9

Water Supplies and Fittings :

Repaired or renewed	....	....	....	1
Roofs repaired or renewed	....	....	....	59
Gutters and rainwater pipes repaired or renewed	....	....	....	30
Walls repaired or renewed	....	....	....	26

Yards paved or repaired	....	....	....	1
Coppers provided	....	....	....	1
Dustbins provided	....	....	....	33
Miscellaneous	....	....	....	24
Accumulations removed	....	....	....	5

SECTION "E"

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

DAIRIES AND MILK SHOPS.

There are within the area 11 registered dairies and licences for the sale of designated milk have also been issued in respect of 120 shop premises and one milk vending machine.

Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949/1954.

Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949/1953.

Number of licences issued:—

(a) Tuberculin Tested Milk ....	....	....	46
(b) Pasteurised Milk ....	....	....	77
(c) Sterilised Milk ....	....	....	129
(d) Dealers (Pasteuriser's) Licences ....	....	....	2

Number of Supplementary Licences issued:—

(a) Tuberculin Tested Milk ....	....	....	3
(b) Pasteurised Milk ....	....	....	3
(c) Sterilised Milk ....	....	....	3

Pasteurising Plants.

There are two pasteurising plants in the district, one of the H.T.S.T. type with a 1,500 G.P.H. capacity and the other of the "Holder" type, with a 200 G.P.H. capacity. These plants have both worked satisfactorily throughout the year, with the exception of the single incident mentioned later in this section in respect of the smaller plant.

MILK SAMPLES.

(a) *Bacteriological.*

The following table shows the number of samples taken and the results obtained:—

GRADE	No. Taken	Phosphatase Test		Methylene Blue Test			Turbidity Test	
		Passed	Failed	Passed	Void	Failed	Passed	Failed
Pasteurised	470	469	I	411	57	2	—	—
Tuberculin Tested (Past.)	46	45	I	36	9	I	—	—
Sterilised	27	—	—	—	—	—	27	—
Tuberculin Tested	53	—	—	52	—	I	—	—

It is to be noted that, of the 596 samples of designated milk taken, four failed the methylene blue test and one the phosphatase test.

This latter sample was processed at a local dairy and enquiries revealed that the Recording Thermometer was inaccurate to the extent of two degrees. The matter was rectified and subsequent samples proved satisfactory. However, this was not the first occasion in which milk from this plant had failed the prescribed test—in 1959 there were two such failures—and an official warning in accordance with Sections 43 and 44 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1955, and Articles 9 & 10 of the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949, was served upon the licensee of the plant.

Of the four methylene blue failures, two were from bottling premises in this area. In the one case the incoming tanker milk was of inferior quality and in the second case stale milk was inadvertently taken out by a roundsman.

Milk Samples which failed the appropriate tests during 1960.

Failure	Designation			Samples from	
	Past.	T.T. Past.	T.T.	Plants within the area	Plants outside the area
Methylene Blue Test	2	I	I	2	2
Phosphatase Test	I	I	—	I	I

(b) *Biological.*

There are 34 milk producing farms in the area and every effort is made to sample the milk from each farm twice yearly. During the year 71 samples were taken for submission to the biological test with a view to determining the presence or otherwise of tubercle bacilli. In no case was a positive result obtained.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

The number of licensed slaughterhouses in the area is now three and all are in regular use.

During the year under review the Slaughterhouse Report was submitted to the Minister with the recommendation that the Construction Regulations be brought into operation on 1st January, 1962. The Council have been notified that the Report has been accepted without modification and there have been no appeals.

The position regarding the three existing slaughterhouses will therefore be as follows:— One will automatically continue without alteration (it already complies with the Construction Regulations), one will need to be re-designed before the end of 1961 and the

remaining premises will be replaced by a new slaughterhouse for which preliminary planning approval has already been obtained.

KNACKERS YARD.

There is one licensed knackers yard in the area but it has not been used for many years.

The premises have been thoroughly renovated and provided with additional equipment to comply with the Council's Byelaws.

MEAT INSPECTION.

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	2460	107	105	4828	4137	—
Number inspected						
<i>All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	1	1	31	2	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	497	38	2	628	332	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	20.2	36.45	2.86	13.65	8.07	—
<i>Tuberculosis Only</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2	—	—	—	62	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	.08	—	—	—	1.5	—
<i>Cysticercosis</i>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	31	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted for treatment by refrigeration	31	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of number inspected affected with Cysticercosis	1.25	—	—	—	—	—

It will be noted that the total number of animals slaughtered during the year was 11,637, a decrease of 21.37% over 1959, and this is almost entirely due to a reduction in the number of sheep killed.

It is pleasing to record that every animal slaughtered has been inspected despite the acute shortage of staff for part of the year, but this has only been made possible by Inspectors working seven day a week — involving over 400 hours overtime.

The remarkable decrease in the incidence of Tuberculosis is even greater than during 1959, but the amount of *Cysticercus Bovis* shows a slight rise, i.e., from 1.2 to 1.25%.

The fact that out of 2,672 beasts slaughtered only 2 showed evidence of Tuberculosis together with the absence of tubercle infection in any of the 71 samples of milk submitted for biological examination is further confirmation of the success of the tuberculosis eradication policy of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

MEAT CONDEMNED.

The weight of meat condemned in the slaughterhouses during the year amounted to 5 tons 4 cwts. 3 qtrs, 21 lbs.

SLAUGHTERMEN.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958.

A register of all licensed slaughtermen is kept in accordance with the above Act and the number so licensed is 14.

UN SOUND FOOD SURRENDERED.

COMMODITY	Tons	cwts.	qtrs.	lbs.	ozs.
3 tins Apple Dumplings	—	—	—	1	14
56 tins Baby Foods	—	—	—	15	14
2 tins Beans and Sausages	—	—	—	1	—
Cheese	—	—	2	9	—
655 boxes Cheese Spread	—	—	3	19	6½
2 jars Chicken	—	—	—	—	9¼
1 tin Chicken Dinner	—	—	—	—	8
9 tins Chocolate Beverages	—	—	—	2	4
11 tins Christmas Puddings	—	—	—	14	—
31 tins Cream	—	—	—	10	14
13 jars Cream	—	—	—	3	4
15 pkts. Dates	—	—	—	7	8
267 tins Fish	—	1	1	12	2
2432 tins Fruit	1	12	—	15	1½

COMMODITY	Tons	cwts.	qtrs.	lbs.	ozs.
50 tins Fruit Juice	—	—	2	4	2
1 jar Gherkins	—	—	—	1	10½
2 tins Hamburgers in Gravy	—	—	—	2	—
4 jars Honey Mixture	—	—	—	4	—
3 tins Instant Coffee	—	—	—	—	6
1 tin Irish Stew	—	—	—	—	15½
1 jar Jam	—	—	—	1	—
41 tins Jam	—	—	3	7	12
1 jar Lemon Curd	—	—	—	—	14½
21 tins Macaroni	—	—	—	21	—
16 tins Marmalade	—	—	—	25	—
2 jars Marmalade	—	—	—	2	—
5 pkts. Marzipan	—	—	—	2	8
859 tins Meat	1	—	2	10	11¾
4 jars Mincemeat	—	—	—	3	10
637 tins Milk 891½ pints equivalent					
6 tins Paste	—	—	—	—	11
103 jars Paste	—	—	—	13	5½
29 jars Peanut Butter	—	—	—	14	8
9 tins Pease Pudding	—	—	—	8	11
11 jars Pickles	—	—	—	7	12
1 tin Ravioli	—	—	—	—	7½
159 tins Rice Pudding	—	1	2	9	14
2 tins Sago Pudding	—	—	—	2	—
12 jars Salad Cream	—	—	—	7	11
3 bottles Sauce	—	—	—	1	15
Sausages	—	—	—	26	—
5 tins Sausages	—	—	—	3	6
1 tin Semolina Pudding	—	—	—	1	—
219 tins Soup	—	1	2	6	1
82 tins Spaghetti	—	—	1	11	2
17 tins Steak Pudding	—	—	—	20	4
8 tins Steak and Kidney Pudding	—	—	—	4	14
27 tins Syrup	—	—	2	1	3
Tomatoes	—	—	1	7	—
3 tins Tomato Juice	—	—	—	2	11½
1 tin Treacle	—	—	—	2	—
1725 tins Vegetables	—	13	2	19	6½
2 tins Vegetables and Casserole	—	—	—	2	—

ICE CREAM SAMPLES.

324 samples of ice cream were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination, with the following results:—

<i>Ministry of Health's Provisional Grade</i>	<i>No. of Samples</i>
Grade I	240
Grade II	54
Grade III	18
Grade IV	12

10 ice lolly samples were taken of which four were unsatisfactory.

The standard of ice-cream sold within the area throughout the year is set out below:—

Producer	Total Samples therefrom	Ministry of Health's Provisional Grades				Quality
		I	II	III	IV	
A	50	28	14	6	2	Unsatisfactory
B	80	69	8	3	—	Satisfactory
C	78	59	15	1	3	Unsatisfactory
D	71	62	9	—	—	Satisfactory
E	15	13	1	1	—	Satisfactory
F	14	3	5	4	2	Unsatisfactory
G	1	1	—	—	—	Satisfactory
H	9	2	—	3	4	Unsatisfactory
I	3	1	1	—	1	Unsatisfactory
J	3	2	1	—	—	Satisfactory
	324	240	54	18	12	

Producer "A" is situated within the Urban District. The remaining producers manufacture outside the area but retail their supplies within.

The 50 samples from the Thurrock producer came within the following categories:—

Percentage of Grade I samples	....	56.0%
Percentage of Grade I and II samples		80.77%
Percentage of Grade III samples	....	12.0%
Percentage of Grade IV samples	....	4.0%

This is an improvement on last year when the percentage of Grade 4 samples was 14.06%.

The overall position regarding the quality of ice cream sold in the district shows a slight improvement over the year 1959. The

total number of Grade 4 samples was 12, a percentage of 3.7. If this figure is judged against the background of the total number of samples taken, i.e. 324, I do not consider it to be unsatisfactory.

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960.

The importance of enforcing the above Regulations continues to be realised and during 1960 a total of 1,231 visits and revisits were made to food shops, cafes, factory and school canteens.

The Regulations of 1955-1957 were consolidated in the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960, which, save in their application to ships, came into operation on 1st October, 1960.

Amendments include the substitution of "catering business" for "businesses which consist of the supply of open food for immediate consumption," the extension of the definition of "handling of food" to include "persons who wash up or clean food equipment" together with sundry other alterations all of which serve to strengthen the legislation.

Details of requirements made under these Regulations are as follows:—

REQUIREMENTS	No. OF INSTANCES
Provision or renewal of:	
Sink	8
Wash hand basin	18
Hot water	25
Cold water	21
Towels	13
Soap	11
Nailbrush	13
First Aid equipment	7
Refuse bins	5
Staff clothing accommodation	3
Artificial lighting	1
Impervious lining to refrigerator	1
Extractor fan	1
Boiler pan	1
Manhole cover	1
Impervious surface to work bench	7
Splash and draining boards	2
Ventilation	2
Division between W.C. and scullery	1
Properly trapped waste pipe	1
"Wash Your Hands" notices	3
Discontinuance of exposure of food	9
Discontinuance of smoking	5

REQUIREMENTS				No. OF INSTANCES
Cleansing of equipment	....	....	....	7
Cleansing of walls/ceilings	....	....	....	27
Cleansing of hands	....	....	....	1
Enlargement of floor drainage channels	....	....	....	1
Replacement of damaged crockery	....	....	....	1
Redecoration of walls/ceilings	....	....	....	27
Clearing and cleansing of yard areas	....	....	....	4
Removal of fuel store from kitchen area	....	....	....	2
Removal of disused equipment	....	....	....	1
Wearing of head covering	....	....	....	2
Repair of ceilings/walls	....	....	....	11
Repair of floors	....	....	....	5
Repair of roofs	....	....	....	6
Repair of sink waste gully surround	....	....	....	1
Repair of trap door to roof space	....	....	....	1
Repair of water heaters	....	....	....	2
Repair of windows	....	....	....	5
Repair of yard surface	....	....	....	1

In addition the following requirements under other Acts and Regulations were made:—

Clearance of blockage in yard gully	....	....	....	1
Cleansing of W.C.	....	....	....	2
Labelling of W.C.s. according to sex of user	....	....	....	2
Provision of flushing apparatus to urinal	....	....	....	1
Renewal of seat to W.C. pan	....	....	....	2
Redecoration of W.C.	....	....	....	1
Repair of door frame to W.C.s.	....	....	....	5
Repair of water supply pipe to W.C.	....	....	....	1
Repair of roof to W.C.	....	....	....	1
Repair of yard gully	....	....	....	1
Sealing of inspection chamber cover	....	....	....	1
Sealing of disused drain	....	....	....	1

The standard of food hygiene in school and factory canteens has been reasonably high. Where there has been cause for criticism it has been due in the main to the laxity or ignorance of personnel rather than the failure of the management to make structural improvements. Most requests by the department are usually promptly attended to.

So far as retail shops are concerned, the biggest single source of criticism is the unnecessary extent to which unwrapped food is handled or exposed unprotected. I refer particularly to cakes, pastries and sweets which are deposited on shop counters without

any protection from members of the public. Such articles, together with cooked meats, meat products, etc., should never be handled by shop assistants but there seems to be a strange reluctance on the part of some staff and employers to use tongs or forks.

Members of the public can further the cause of food hygiene in a telling manner by declining to patronise shops in which food is exposed or handled under such unsatisfactory conditions.

It will be recalled that, in last year's report, I commented upon the unsatisfactory conditions existing at the Grays Market Place wherein there are approximately 37 stalls (including 14 food stalls) involving the employment of over 50 persons, none of whom have adequate sanitary accommodation or washing facilities.

Further consideration was given to the provision of a sanitary block by the Grays Market Committee during the year but the matter has been deferred pending negotiations with the owner of that part of the Market which is not under the Council's control.

It is to be regretted that legislation does not exist requiring those receiving rent, i.e. site owners, to comply with the provisions of the Food Hygiene Regulations and the Shops Act regarding structural matters and fitments.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955. SECTION 16.

The records show that there were 266 premises registered for the manufacture or sale of ice cream and 119 premises registered for the manufacture or preservation of food at the year's end.

These figures include 36 premises registered under the Food Hygiene (Amendment) Regulations, 1957, for the preparation of potted shrimps.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

During the year legal proceedings have been instituted in respect of the following:—

- (1) Failure to ensure that a milk bottle was in a state of thorough cleanliness before use.
A fine of £10 with 15/- costs was imposed.
- (2) The sale of pork sausages which were unfit for human consumption.
A fine of £10 was imposed.

FOOD AND DRUGS SAMPLING.

During the year samples were taken at the recommended rate of 3 per 1,000 population per annum and I am indebted to the Public Analyst (T. McLachlan, Esq., A.C.G.F.C., F.R.I.C., M.I.Biol.) for the following report on the analyses of samples and other relevant matters regarding the legislation and standards relating to food and drugs.

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ANALYST.

During the year 1960, 316 samples of food and drugs were examined. Of these 48 were taken formally and 268 informally.

The number of samples adulterated or incorrect in some way was 15. The incidence of adulteration may be classified as follows:—

		<i>Number of samples examined</i>	<i>Number of samples adulterated, etc.</i>
Milk ....	....	48	—
Other foods ....	....	254	14
Drugs ....	....	14	1

A slice of bread from a wrapped cut loaf was received as a complaint. It was contaminated with a piece of wholemeal bread which had become included in the dough due to improper cleaning in the bakery.

Two samples of egg rusks were satisfactory as such, but they were of normal composition and their advertisement regarding slimming was contrary to the recommendations of the Food Standards Committee Report on bread and flour, especially when they were advertised as being attractive with butter, jam or fruit.

The label of some raspberry flavour was not in accordance with the Labelling of Food Regulations. The sample contained 29.2 per cent of acetic acid, and the Labelling of Food Order 1953, part 4, article 7 (2), requires any product containing 15 per cent w/v of acetic acid to be described as “concentrated solution of acetic acid” with the words “Dangerous. Not to used unless diluted.” It was thought that some mistake had probably been made in the preparation of this raspberry flavour.

A sample described as “Instant Coffee. 100 per cent Pure Coffee.” was in fact a dried extract containing only the soluble solids of coffee, and it was suggested that it should be labelled “100% Pure” without the word “Coffee.” The sample was otherwise satisfactory.

Some canned casserole meat contained only 65 per cent total meat. A tentative suggestion made with representatives of the Food Manufacturers Federation and representatives of the Association of Public Analysts, suggested that casserole meat should contain not less than 95 per cent of meat and that casserole meat with gravy should contain not less than 75 per cent of meat, so that this product was 30 per cent deficient in meat.

Hamburgers should be essentially a meat and onion product, but a sample examined contained 42 per cent of total meat, 26 per

cent of starch and 32 per cent of added water, and it was thought that they should therefore be described as rissoles and not as hamburgers. Another sample of canned hamburgers was also considered to have a misleading label. The can contained 48 per cent of hamburgers and 52 per cent of gravy, whereas the illustration on the label showed four hamburgers with a small quantity of gravy.

A sample of sausages contained 297 parts per million of sulphur dioxide although its presence was not declared, and they therefore contravened the Preservatives in Food Regulations.

Several samples of soup were examined. Two soup powders yielded a made up product of only half the concentration of canned soups. Your analyst holds that such powders should be described as "appetizer soup" powders. He has addressed the Nutrition Society on this matter and has published an article dealing with their composition.

A shark's fin soup was considered to be incorrectly labelled as Shark's fin was only a minor constituent. Some fish cakes were satisfactory as fish cakes, but when received were found to have a bacteriological count at blood heat of 15,000,000 per gram, which is an excessive number of bacteria.

A sample of shredded beef suet contained only 79.2 per cent of fat, whereas the Food Standards (Suet) Order, 1952, requires the presence of not less than 83 per cent of fat. As this was one sample only and there may have been difficulty in filling the packets, it was thought that other packets might contain the correct quantity and it was reported as inferior. A follow-up sample contained 84.2 per cent fat and was satisfactory.

A sample of bismuthated magnesia tablets had no declaration of active constituents, and therefore appeared to contravene the Pharmacy and Medicines Act, 1941. The manufacturers maintained that, as they make no medicinal claims for the product, this disclosure is unnecessary and, since your analyst was unable to produce such an advertisement, we had to accept the claims of the manufacturers.

FOOD LEGISLATION.

The year brought little change in food legislation, although the Food Standards Committee issued two long reports, of which mention will be made later.

The Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960, No. 1601, consolidated and amended the previous regulations. One amendment extends the regulations to cover the cleaning of food utensils and equipment, but it is remarkable that no regulations have yet

been made to cover the material of which food handling utensils and equipment are made. Over many years attention has been drawn to the risk involved in using articles such as enamelware coated with antimony enamels and toasting prongs coated with lead, but it is still necessary to show that the food stored in or treated with this equipment has been contaminated before any action can be taken.

The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960, No. 1542, prescribe modifications of the existing Methylene blue test, provide a fresh Phosphatase test for pasteurised milk, and also provide a new test, the Clot-on-Boiling Test for tuberculin tested milk.

The Skimmed Milk with Non-Milk Fat Regulations, 1960, No. 2331, cover fresh ground in food law inasmuch as they provide for the sale of milk, condensed milk, and dried milk, from which the original milk fat has been removed and replaced by other fats or oils. Fats and oils used for this exchange are generally of vegetable origin and are intended primarily for persons suffering from coronary disease, and the reconstituted milk products are not to be used for babies. The Regulations are unfortunate in that they "do not apply to any food intended at the time of sale for export from the United Kingdom," because certain foreign governments accept foods, which comply with the requirements of the British Food and Drugs Act to be admitted into their countries and accept the certificates either of any public analyst or of certain recognised public analysts to this effect. Any Regulations should, therefore, be so worded that they apply only to countries where there are no restrictions. Another unfortunate provision in these regulations is that the labelling requirements do not apply to sales to catering or manufacturing businesses or to sales for immediate consumption. One would have thought that the casual consumer or eater-out is as much entitled to know what he is consuming as the purchaser buying a pre-packed food for use in the home.

The Arsenic in Food (Amendment) Regulations, 1960, increase the amount of arsenic in brewers' yeast to be used in manufacture from 2.0 to 5.0 parts per million when calculated on the dry matter, but make no other alteration to the existing regulations.

The Report of the Departmental Committee on "Milk Composition in the United Kingdom" occupies some 86 pages and makes 23 main recommendations, which may be summarised as follows:—

(a) Milk should continue to be sold as it comes from the cow except for separated and other grades, which must be clearly labelled:

(b) Efforts should be made to improve the quality of milk both with regard to fat and solids-not-fat, though the committee is more concerned about the solids-not-fat than the fat content:

(c) The presumptive minimum standards should in five or ten years time become minimum legal standards for sale to the consumer:

(d) The Hortvet Freezing test should be made legal subject to certain provisos:

(e) Differential payment schemes should be introduced according to the quality of the milk:

(f) Better provision should be made for the testing both of bulk and of individual cow milks.

The Food Standards Committee Report on Bread and Flour occupies 19 pages and includes 24 general recommendations regarding flour and 10 regarding bread, but it also contains 51 pages of Appendices. The main provisions are that all flour required to be fortified at present should continue to be fortified for the present and that no change should be made in the quantities prescribed, that all sampling should be made at mills or docks, and that only certain bleaching and improving agents should be permitted. It is recommended that there should be a statutory list of ingredients permitted to be used in bread, that descriptions of "protein," "milk" and "slimming" breads should be controlled, and that exaggerated claims for enrichment or energy-producing qualities of bread should be prohibited.

Article	Number examined			Number adulterated, etc.		
	Informal	Formal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
Almonds	1	—	1	—	—	—
Baked Beans & Sausages	1	—	1	—	—	—
Baking Powder	2	—	2	—	—	—
Biscuits	3	—	3	—	2	2
Bread	1	—	1	—	1	1
Butter	7	—	7	—	—	—
Cake	3	—	3	—	—	—
Cake Mixture	1	—	1	—	—	—
Calcium Caseinate Milk						
Protein Powder	1	—	1	—	—	—
Chocolate Flavour Beverage	1	—	1	—	—	—
Coffee	6	—	6	—	1	1
Colouring	1	—	1	—	—	—
Confectionery	20	—	20	—	—	—
Cooking Fat	1	—	1	—	—	—
Cornflour	3	—	3	—	—	—

Article	Number examined			Number adulterated, etc.		
	Informal	Formal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
Cream	9	—	9	—	—	—
Dessert Powder	1	—	1	—	—	—
Essences & Flavours	4	—	4	—	1	1
Faggots	1	—	1	—	—	—
Fish Cakes	2	—	2	—	1	1
Fish, canned	1	—	1	—	—	—
Fish, potted	3	—	3	—	—	—
Fish Paste	3	—	3	—	—	—
Flour	8	—	8	—	—	—
Fruit, canned	3	—	3	—	—	—
Fruit, dry	1	—	1	—	—	—
Fruit Juice	1	—	1	—	—	—
Fruit Pectin	1	—	1	—	—	—
Ginger, Chinese	1	—	1	—	—	—
Glucose Syrup	1	—	1	—	—	—
Gravy Powder	1	—	1	—	—	—
Ice Cream	18	—	18	—	—	—
Jam	7	—	7	—	—	—
Jelly	2	—	2	—	—	—
Lemon Curd	1	—	1	—	—	—
Malt Beverage	1	—	1	—	—	—
Margarine	5	—	5	—	—	—
Marmalade	2	—	2	—	—	—
Marzipan	2	—	2	—	—	—
Meat, Hamburgers	2	—	2	—	2	2
Meat, canned	10	—	10	—	1	1
Meat, Frozen Steaklets	1	—	1	—	—	—
Meat, minced	1	—	1	—	—	—
Meat Paste	2	—	2	—	—	—
Meat Pie	14	—	14	—	—	—
Meat Rissole	1	—	1	—	—	—
Milk	—	48	48	—	—	—
Milk, Condensed	2	—	2	—	—	—
Milk Diet Supplement	1	—	1	—	—	—
Milk, Evaporated	3	—	3	—	—	—
Mincemeat	4	—	4	—	—	—
Peanut Butter	1	—	1	—	—	—
Peas, canned	1	—	1	—	—	—
Pease Pudding	1	—	1	—	—	—
Peel, cut	2	—	2	—	—	—
Pepper	6	—	6	—	—	—
Perry	1	—	1	—	—	—

Article	Number examined			Number adulterated, etc.		
	Informal	Formal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
Pie, Fruit	1	—	1	—	—	—
Pigs Trotters, bottled	1	—	1	—	—	—
Pudding, Christmas	1	—	1	—	—	—
Pudding, Meat	1	—	1	—	—	—
Rice, Flaked	1	—	1	—	—	—
Rice Pudding	3	—	3	—	—	—
Sauce	2	—	2	—	—	—
Sausages	5	—	5	—	1	1
Semolina	2	—	2	—	—	—
Soft Drinks	18	—	18	—	—	—
Soup, bottled	1	—	1	—	1	1
Soup, canned	4	—	4	—	—	—
Soup, powder	5	—	5	—	2	2
Spaghetti Milanese	1	—	1	—	—	—
Spices	2	—	2	—	—	—
Spread, Savoury and Sweet	6	—	6	—	—	—
Stuffing	1	—	1	—	—	—
Suet	4	—	4	—	1	1
Tea	2	—	2	—	—	—
Tomatoes, canned	1	—	1	—	—	—
Tomato Puree	1	—	1	—	—	—
Vinegar	6	—	6	—	—	—
Walnuts, pickled	1	—	1	—	—	—
DRUGS :						
Baby Cough Syrup	1	—	1	—	—	—
Bismuthated Magnesia Tablets	1	—	1	—	1	1
Cold & Influenza Mixture	1	—	1	—	—	—
Cough Lozenges	1	—	1	—	—	—
Cough Mixture	2	—	2	—	—	—
Cough Syrup	2	—	2	—	—	—
Halibut Liver Oil Capsules	1	—	1	—	—	—
Halibut Liver Oil Tablets	1	—	1	—	—	—
Indigestion Tablets	1	—	1	—	—	—
Iron Tonic Tablets	1	—	1	—	—	—
Saccharin Sodium Tablets	1	—	1	—	—	—
Soothing Powder	1	—	1	—	—	—
	268	48	316	—	15	15

ACTION TAKEN ON UNSATISFACTORY SAMPLES

Bread : Manufacturers informed. No further action taken.

Egg Rusks (Two) : No action taken.

Raspberry Flavouring : This was very old stock and the remains of it were surrendered by the retailer. No further action was possible as the manufacturers had long since gone out of business.

Instant Coffee : Manufacturers have amended the label.

Casserole Meat : Manufacturers informed of Analyst's comments. No further action possible in absence of legal standard.

Hamburgers : Wrong label used by retailer. Correct label now in use.

Canned Hamburgers : Manufacturers have agreed to pack over 50% of Hamburgers in the can. Consideration will be given to amendment of the labels when present stock is exhausted.

Sausages : Upon investigation at the place of sale it was found that a notice drawing attention to the use of preservatives is normally displayed. On the occasion of sampling it is thought that the notice must have been displaced.

Soup Powders : Analyst's comments were conveyed to the manufacturers. No further action possible in absence of legal standard.

Shark's Fin Soup : Analyst's comments were conveyed to the manufacturers. No further action possible in absence of legal standard.

Fish Cakes : On receipt of the Analyst's comments a further sample was taken and submitted to bacteriological examination, the result being a plate count of 600,000 colonies per gram. The matter was then placed in the hands of the Grimsby Port Health Authority in whose area these fish cakes were manufactured.

Beef Suet : A further, formal, sample proved to be satisfactory, as stated in the Public Analyst's report. No further action taken.

Bismuthated Magnesia Tablets : Manufacturers did not agree with Analyst's comments. No further action.

SECTION "F"

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS
AND OTHER DISEASES.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

DISEASE		Notified	Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	...	94	1	—
Dysentery	...	90	34	—
Pneumonia	...	81	4	61
Infective Hepatitis	...	21	—	—
Whooping Cough	...	197	2	—
Measles	...	67	—	—
Erysipelas	...	5	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	10	6	—
Food Poisoning	...	138	29	—
Meningococcal Infection		1	1	—
Malaria	...	1	1	—

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE INCIDENCE ACCORDING TO
AGE GROUPS.

DISEASE	Under 1 year	1 yr.	2 yrs.	3 yrs.	4 yrs.	5-9 yrs.	10-14 yrs.	15-24 yrs.	25 yrs. over	Total
Scarlet Fever ...	1	2	3	7	11	40	27	2	1	94
Infective Hepatitis ...	—	—	—	1	1	9	6	3	1	21
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	8	10
Dysentery ...	3	4	5	1	4	11	22	9	31	90
Pneumonia ...	10	6	9	9	4	10	3	2	28	81
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	5
Whooping Cough ...	16	19	19	22	25	79	13	1	3	197
Measles ...	12	11	9	8	5	14	5	3	—	67
Food Poisoning ...	4	6	5	5	2	6	10	13	87	138
Meningococcal Infection ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Malaria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1

FOOD POISONING, &c.

The number of cases of food poisoning, dysentery, etc., still causes a great deal of work to the Public Health Department, more especially as before the patient or contacts, in the case of food handlers, return to work two negative faecal swabs are required.

During the year 15 persons were excluded from work and in one case compensation for loss of earnings was paid in accordance with Section 99 of the Essex County Council Act, 1952.

The following table shows the number of faecal swabs submitted by the department to Orsett Hospital and I am indebted to the staff of the pathological laboratory for the ready willingness with which they have carried out the requests of the Health Department.

Taken From	Negative	Positive
Food Handlers 	41	Nil
Non-Food Handlers ...	10*	Nil

* Eight of these 10 samples were taken at the request of other authorities.

In addition two samples of corned beef were examined as they were alleged to have caused food poisoning. The results were negative.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

Public Health Act, 1936, Section 172.

No action was taken under the above headings.

TUBERCULOSIS

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY

Age periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Resp'ry		Respiratory		Non-Resp'ry	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—
5-14 yrs.	2	1	3	—	—	—	—	—
15-24 „	2	3	2	1	—	—	—	—
25-44 „	14	9	—	1	—	1	—	—
45-64 „	5	5	1	—	2	—	1	—
65 upwards	3	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Totals	27	19	8	2	3	2	1	—

SECTION "G"

PRESCRIBED PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION
OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937

PART I OF THE ACT

1 — INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

PREMISES (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of Inspec- tions (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	39	22	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	300	231	17	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total	339	253	17	—

2 — Cases in which DEFECTS were found:

PARTICULARS (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	2	2	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):—					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	12	12	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	3	3	—	—	—
Total	17	17	—	—	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORKERS.

There are no employers of outworkers as defined in Sections 110 and 111 of the Act, in this area.

A register of outworkers resident in the district is kept, the number so registered being 55.

SECTION "H"

SHOPS, ETC., INSPECTION

LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

Shops Acts, 1950.

Young Persons (Employment) Act, 1938.

WEEKLY HALF HOLIDAY ORDERS.

(1) Grays Thurrock — Wednesday.

Art Needlework Dealers, Boot Dealers, Corn Dealers, Drapers, Dealers in Fancy Goods, Furnishers, Outfitters, Grocers, Ironmongers, Jewellers, Nurserymen, Oil and Colour Merchants, Ships Candler, Sewing Machine Dealers, Stationers, Wardrobe Dealers, Harness Makers, Butchers, Chemists and Hairdressers.

Exemptions:— Photographers, Dealers in photographic goods.

(2) South Ockendon — Wednesday.

All trades not exempted by Act, Stationers, Corn and Coal Dealers.

(3) South Ockendon — Thursday.

Stationers.

Exemptions:— Corn and Coal Merchants.

(4) Stanford-le-Hope — Wednesday.

All trades except those exempted by the Act, together with Furniture Dealers, Hairdressers, Outfitters and Watchmakers.

(5) Purfleet and Langdon Hills.

All shops exempt from closing.

(6) Tilbury — Wednesday.

Hairdressers.

(7) Fobbing.

Coal and Coke Merchants exempted.

CLOSING ORDERS.

(1) Grays Thurrock — Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 7 p.m.,
Friday 8 p.m., Saturday 9 p.m.

Art Needlework Dealers, Bakers, Boot and Shoe Merchants, Butchers, Chemists, China and Glass Merchants, Corn Merchants, Dairymen, Drapers, Furnishers, Gents' Outfitters, Ironmongers and Hardware Merchants, Jewellers, Oil and Colour Merchants, Photographers, Sewing Machine Agents and Stationers.

(2) North and South Stifford, West and Little Thurrock.

Tobacconists — Weekdays 9.30 p.m., Saturday 10 p.m.

Sunday Trading Exemptions.

Parts of Grays (Old High Street from Market Place to Grays Beach).	Photographic requisites. Sale of articles for bathing or fishing, toys, souvenirs, fancy goods, books, stationery, photographs, reproductions & postcards.	9 a.m. to 8 p.m. 1st June - 19th September.
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Some 431 visits were carried out resulting in the service of 60 written notices, made up as follows:—

REQUIREMENTS	No. OF INSTANCES
Cleaning of gullies/gutters	2
Redecoration of W.C.s.	4
Repair of walls/ceilings to W.C.s.	2
Repair of water service pipe	1
Renewal of W.C. compartment	1
Labelling of W.C.s. according to sex of user	1
Provision of Vacant/Engaged bolt to W.C.	2
Provision of new seat to W.C.	1
Provision of washing facilities	2
Provision of heating	2
Provision of W.C.	1
Provision and exhibition of forms	40
Completion of forms	1

Complaints and enquiries have been very few during the year. Such matters usually relate to Hours of Closing and Sunday Trading. A pamphlet has been prepared which is available to any shopkeeper who is in need of advice on these matters.

The principal infringements of the Shops Act relate to the provision of the requisite forms and records. The department now keeps a stock of forms and they are available to shopkeepers on request.